ITJSG Minutes
December 16, 1999

Attendance: Bud Wylie, Dave Hoshaw, Carl Workman, Jim Rardon, Bob Kennedy, Chris Bertelli, Joan Donahue, Joe Petrucelli, John Van Dinther, Donna McKalip, Rowe Campbell**,** Chuck Kiesstency, Jim Russell, Tito Maldonado, Stan Tumosa, Lawrence Gamble, Viriginia Kooch, Steve Herlihy, Dave Mabee, Mike Williams, and Sybil Cole; and, Colonel Sutliff participated by telephone.

Agenda:

Opportunities For Improvement (OFI) Subsystem in DIRAMS – Milestone 00 – Jim Russell
DIRAMS Milestone 0 – Joe Petrucelli & Stan Tumosa
Oracle 8i Conversion – Lawrence Gamble & Stan Tumosa
Haystack Online Service – Dave Mabee
Supplier Information Service/Risk Assessment and Management Program (RAMP) – Enhanced RAMP and Preaward Survey System (PASS) - Milestone 00– Bob Kennedy and Jim Rardon
PLAS/ATAAPS – Joan Donahue

Minutes (Action Items and Decisions in blue italics):

OFI Subsystem in DIRAMS

- Jim Russell presented a Milestone 00 briefing for OFI Subsystem in DIRAMS. (See attached briefing.)
- A team made up of CAO representatives was charged with developing an approach for integrating the various internal assessment tools that DCMC uses.
- Contract Administration Offices (CAOs) are currently using 19 different internal assessment and risk management tools. Each of these tools yields Opportunities for Improvements (OFIs) which CAOs can follow up on to improve mission performance, workforce quality of life, etc.
- The CAO representatives team believes that few CAOs are correctly and adequately reporting the OFIs and incorporating the associated corrective action strategies into their performance plans. The team also believes that several offices have developed unique OFI tracking systems, or even multiple tracking systems, that do not communicate well with each other.
- The team is proposing that a DIRAMS module be developed to serve as the Command's integrated central OFI tracking and reporting system.
- The team believes that by having "everything in one place," process owners will be better able to see gaps in their programs, and that a standardized system will reduce the reporting requirements associated with the Command's assessment tools.
- Col. Sutliff interjected that he has been able to prioritize OFIs adequately. He asked why he should have to worry about another system?
- Jim Russell replied that the proposed new OFI tracking and reporting system should cut down on the amount of OFI reporting that CAOs have to do.
- John Van Dinther said that if a new centralized OFI system would truly replace all the locally developed OFI tracking systems, that would be good. However, he was concerned that CAOs would probably end up maintaining multiple systems, because of CAOs' concerns about what kind of trouble they might get into if they were completely candid about reporting their OFIs. If multiple systems are going to persist, he would not recommend proceeding with this proposed system.
- Mike Williams said that he would like to know how business processes might change if we proceeded with this system. He noted that automated tools always change business processes, just by the fact of their existence. Accordingly, we ought to explicitly consider and take advantage up-front of any business process changes made possible by automation.
- Mike suggested, however, that his questions are the kind that could be addressed and answered during Concept Exploration. He suggested that the ITJSG approve this project's Milestone 00 and let it proceed to Concept Exploration for further refinement and definition.

- *The ITJSG approved Milestone 00 for OFI Subsystem for DIRAMS, and instructed Donna McKalip to assign a DCMC-AB project officer to work with Jim Russell's office on Concept Exploration.*

DIRAMS Version 6 Milestone 0

- Joe Petrucelli and Stan Tumosa presented a Milestone 0 (Concept of Exploration) briefing on DIRAMS. (See attached briefing.)
- The DIRAMS team is proposing that Version 6 incorporate:
  - A Web interface, that will eliminate the need for installing the application on every desktop.
  - A 32 bit architecture, to meet DoD's architectural requirements.
  - An additional "roll up" database at the HQ.
  - Enhanced security and access control.
- Col. Sutliff asked what Version 6 would do to the current ad hoc query capability. Joe replied that the current ad hoc capability would be unchanged.
- Joe noted that his preliminary schedule estimate sets aside three months of time to allow for competitive selection of the software development contractor.
- Colonel Sutliff asked about a testing plan for Version 6. Joe replied that with this version, they will go through full functional, environmental, and operational testing, without bringing down the current system (which is what has been done with transitions between previous versions). This answer addressed Colonel Sutliff's concern.
- John Van Dinther asked where the new HQ database would reside. Joe replied that it would be on one of the DCMC HQ LAN servers. Mike Williams asked how large the database would be. When told that it would be roughly 14 gigabytes, Mike noted that that should pose no problem.
- *The ITJSG approved Milestone 0 and moving on to Entry into Acquisition for DIRAMS Version 6.*

Oracle 8i Conversion

- Lawrence Gamble and Stan Tumosa presented an informational brief on the Oracle 8i conversion. (See attached briefing.)
- Oracle has sent out a memorandum stating that they are no longer going to support versions of the software from 7.3.2 to 8.0.5. This will impact most of the applications we currently support.
- In addition the older versions of Oracle do not comply with the stricter DoD security accreditation requirements. For instance, they do not provide for password aging or password time outs.
- There will be little costs involved: some for TDY and some money to take a few servers from HP 10.0 to HP 11.0, all to be funded out of the existing IT Infrastructure budget.
- John Van Dinther noted that this upgrade could have a great impact on the resources available, and accordingly the ITJSG will have to watch carefully for schedule conflicts between this effort, new application deployments, etc.
- Mike noted that this is the first time DCMC has attempted such an across-the-board upgrade, but we should learn some good lessons from this, and be able to apply those lessons to future efforts of this type—of which, there definitely will be more, because of the 18 month product life cycles common in the IT industry for both software and hardware.

Haystack Online Services

- Dave Mabee presented a Milestone 00 briefing to the ITJSG for the Haystack pricing history service. (See attached briefing.)
- Haystack provides a method for accessing a compilation of recent prices paid for a variety of industrial parts and supplies, including DoD spares and repair parts. The Haystack service also provides access to a variety of other cost and technical information necessary to establish price reasonableness and cost realism.
- Dave noted that this is a user-friendly application that requires very little training for effective use.
- Haystack comes with the ability to use it in three different modes: Direct connection, Web access, and CD-ROM. All delivery modes are included in the product price.

- A 25 simultaneous user license costs approximately $40,000 per year and a license for 50 simultaneous users costs $65,000.
- This application provides monthly usage reporting. This reporting will enable DCMC to know if the right number of licenses were purchased.
- There is a firewall concern with the direct connection service. There are firewalls that might have to be traversed (e.g., DISA's or contractors') that DCMC has no control over. Also, DCMC's, or the Haystack site's, firewall settings may change from time to time, thereby interrupting access to the Haystack site. This issue should be investigated further, but Dave was warned that he probably ought to plan for using Web access only.
- Funding for this acquisition will come from DCMC-O. Rowe Campbell said that DCMC-O will need to identify the funding required and then DCMC-B will move the money to DCMC-AB for them to actually acquire the service. She also pointed out that DCMC-O should allow for some TDY travel for training when doing their funds identification.
- *The ITJSG approved purchasing the Haystack service.*

Supplier Information Service/Risk Assessment and Management Program (RAMP) – Enhanced RAMP and Preaward Survey System (PASS) - Milestone 00 - Bob Kennedy and Jim Rardon

- Bob Kennedy and Jim Rardon presented a Milestone 00 briefing for enhanced versions of RAMP and PASS. (See attached.)
- Bob explained that field users would like to be able to do surveillance planning and actual recording of the surveillance results on-line in RAMP.
- Also, PASS needs to be modified to accommodate the new risk-based Preaward Surveys.
- *The ITJSG approved Milestone 00 and entry into Concept Exploration for Enhanced RAMP and PASS*.

PLAS/ATAAPS

- Joan Donahue informed the ITJSG to explain that it had been previously planned to work on an automated link between PLAS and ATAAPS. However, ATAAPS is being rehosted by its parent agency. Accordingly, there will be no work on this interface until at least 2001, when the rehosting is scheduled for completion.

Approved:

MICHAEL R. WILLIAMS
Chairperson, DCMC Information
Technology Joint Steering Group